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# Montana and the Sky

Department of Transportation – Aeronautics Division

Vol. 47 No. 4

April 1996

## Aeronautics Board Approves Airport Development Financial Assistance

By Redge R. Meierhenry

Montana Aeronautics established in mid-1993, an Airport Development Financial Assistance Program for the promotion of aeronautical purposes, airport improvement and development. This program is a result of legislation sponsored by the Montana Pilots Association. Financial assistance is provided as grants and loans and is designed to be a flexible funding mechanism assisting airport development projects. The Aeronautics Board and Division make every effort to maximize funds intended to promote Montana aviation and airport development.

The financial assistance program has gained in popularity. Thirteen different airport sponsors submitted applications for this year's funding. Many worthwhile projects were submitted and competition for the limited funding is severe. Unfortunately, not every project can be approved and funded due to the small size of the fund.

Typically, we program approximately \$100,000 in airport development grants and \$100,000 for airport development loans. This year's allocation available for disbursement was \$152,210 for grants and \$163,000 for loans. These higher amounts

were for this year's programming only, additional funds having been carried forward from last fiscal year.

This year's program was reviewed by the Montana Aeronautics Board at their regularly scheduled meeting, March 22, 1996, in Helena. The list below is those airport projects approved for funding.

Gardiner Airport also submitted a request of funds to assist in the reconstruction of runway 28/10. Aeronautics Board action regarding their request was tabled for further consideration at the next Board meeting at Yellowstone Airport.

ENNIS—\$1,000 Preliminary Engineering Grant for Master Plan.

HAMILTON—\$1,000 Preliminary Engineering Grant for Master Plan.

SIDNEY—\$1,000 Preliminary Engineering Grant for Master Plan.

BIG TIMBER—\$41,733 grant and \$30,000 loan. Project is to reconstruct runway 6/24, apron and taxiway, extend runway 6/24 install PAPI runway 24, rehabilitate taxilane and runway 6/25 medium intensity lighting (MIRL).

THOMPSON FALLS—\$9,800 grant and \$9,800 loan. Project is to purchase land to protect Runway Protection Zones (RPZ's), Obstacle Free Areas (OFA's) and for future runway extension.

MALTA—\$40,000 grant and \$56,250 loan. Project is to construct new airport at site selected by Master Plan.

LEWISTOWN—\$6,690 grant and \$23,950 loan. Project is to reconstruct runway 12/30, construct connecting taxiway with runway 7/25 overrun, and install MIRL runway 12/30.

MILES CITY—\$2,050 grant for purchase of three aviation band radios for airport plow and maintenance vehicles and a \$1,000 Preliminary Engineering Grant.

KALISPELL CITY—\$2,837 grant for City Airport site analysis.

BRIDGER—\$5,100 grant for crack seal and chip seal runway 16/34, taxiway and apron.

## EAA Fly-In

The Polson EAA Chapter 1122 will host a fly-in at the Polson Airport on Saturday, May 25 from 8 am to 6 pm.

There will be an RC aircraft display and flight demonstration, model train display, drawings for prizes, breakfast and lunch, USAF search and rescue helicopter.

Young Eagle flights for preregistered youths between the ages of 8 and 17 will be conducted.

Fuel discount for those attending the fly-in. For more information call Polson Aviation at 883-6787. ✈

PLEASE RETURN

# Administrator's Column

**New Medical Standards:** After a long wait the FAA issued their final rule on the new medical standards and it appears that most of the concerns expressed in over 5,000 comments to the original proposal have been positively addressed by changes or elimination. Some of the changes in the Notice Of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) include: No EKG required for second-class medicals; no specific blood pressure standards; no cholesterol level determinations for pilots over age 50; third class medicals will be extended to three years for pilots under age 40 and for pilots over age 40 the two year requirement will remain; the five year disqualifying period for drug and alcohol addiction was reduced to two years; diabetes control with oral hypoglycemic drugs will no longer be categorically denied a medical certificate.

→ → → → → → → →

**New GPS Accuracy:** The Administration has announced that the USAF will be switching off their military-quality "Selective Availability" mode on the Global Positioning System which now degrades the signal and make it available free of charge to civilian users within four to ten years. The big concern now is that the Department of Defense must maintain a military edge and they are working on new methods to perfect this advantage.

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**FAA Extends NPRM Comment Period:** The FAA has announced that they have extended the comment period on Crew-member Flight & Duty Time Limits Notice Of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM). I wrote about this in the February issue of Montana & The Sky. The National Air Carriers Association (NACA) has joined the National Air Transportation Association (NATA) in strongly opposing this proposed new FAA rule. NACA President Edward Driscoll said that there is no doubt that its implementation would have a devastating effect on carriers operating under

supplemental rules and that the new rule has little, if any, justification from a safety standpoint but is based upon studies of sleep disorders and fatigue which may not have a direct bearing upon safety of flight. The 90 day extension will now give those interested parties until June 19, 1996, to comment. We thank Senator Baucus for his help in getting this extension.

→ → → → → → → →

**Houses Passes Independent FAA Bill:** THE US House of Representatives has passed the Federal Aviation Revitalization Act of 1995 (H.R.2276) sponsored by Representatives John Duncan of TN and Jim Lightfoot of IA. H.R. 2276 removes the FAA from the US DOT and returns it to an independent agency, overhauls personnel and procurement rules, establish as a five-member board appointed by the President, requires an FAA funding needs audit, mandates evaluation of the cost for existing and proposed regulations, forces the FAA to better manage its costs by using reforms to improve efficiency and uses the aviation excise taxes to fund the FAA. Although the bill originally included removing the aviation users trust fund from the unified budget, this portion was placed in separate legislation (H.R. 842) along with the other transportation trust funds. Although the passage of this bill is good news there is still the opposing Senator McCain of AZ bill (S.1239) on hold in the Senate which is strongly opposed by the National Aviation Associations Coalition (NAAC). Of even more concern is that **Secretary of Transportation Federico Pena has threatened to have President Clinton veto the House bill if it should get to his desk.**



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# Calendar

**April 20**—1st Annual, Post-Tax Day, Free Pancake Breakfast Fly-in, Bridger Aviation Services, Progreba Field, Three Forks.

**April 26**—Burton K. Wheeler Business Roundtable, Bozeman Holiday Inn.

**May 4**—EAA Chapter 57 Fly-in, Laurel Municipal Airport. Contact: Bob Kimpton (406)259-7010.

**May 4**—Glasgow Young Eagles Day, Glasgow Airport.

**May 12**—USAF Thunderbirds, Malmstrom AFB, Great Falls. Static displays 10:30–3:30 pm, show time at 3:30 pm. No charge, open to the public. Contact: Len Wheeler (406)449-5270.

**May 25**—EAA Chapter 1122 Fly-in, Polson.

**May 25–27**—Benchmark Annual Work Session.

**June 9**—Montana Flying Farmers and Ranchers 50th Year Celebration, potluck at 1 pm, Lewistown Airport Terminal.

**June 11**—Aviation Safety Program, Kalispell.

**June 12**—Aviation Safety Program, Missoula.

**June 13–16**—Montana Antique Airplane Association Air Tour, contact Roy Hollandsworth, 627-2446.

**June 15**—Miles City Airport Appreciation Day and Fly-in. Contact Alvin Hirsch 354-6481.

**June 18**—Aviation Safety Program, Billings.

**June 19**—Aviation Safety Program, Great Falls.

**June 20**—Aviation Safety Program, Helena.

**June 21–23**—Idaho Aviation Association Fly-in, Lewiston, ID. Contact Johnny Stewart (208)476-4647.

**June 22**—Helena Hangar MPA Work session and Fly-in, Lincoln Airport.

**June 27–July 4**—Great Northern Air Adventure. Call (306)931-8585 or (403)451-5289.

**July 10–14**—Northwest EAA Regional Fly-in, Arlington, WA.

**July 13**—Annual Hamilton Airport Fly-in and Pancake Breakfast. Contact: Warren Woolley (406)363-0874.

**July 13**—North Central Fly-In Breakfast and Toy Show, Havre. Contact: John Anderson (406)265-7338.

**July 19–22**—Schafer Meadows Annual Worksession.

**July 2**—Cub Scout Benefit Fly-in breakfast. All you can eat \$3.50, 7am–noon, Harlowton Airport. Call Will Morse 632-4545.

**August 1–7**—44th Annual EAA Fly-in Convention, Oshkosh, WI.

**August 8–11**—MAAA Annual Fly-in, Three Forks Airport/Progreba Field. Dedication of Progreba Memorial on August 10 at 11 am with lunch to follow. Contact Bill Fairhurst 285-3515.

**August 23–25**—Annual Family Fly-in and Flight Safety Expo, Driggs, ID.

**August 30–September 2**—Annual Labor Day Fly-in, West Yellowstone.

**September 12–15**—Reno Air Races.

**September 20–22**—Mountain Search Pilot Clinic, Kalispell.

**September 28**—Aerotronics 5th Annual Open House, Billings.

## House Approves Independent FAA

H.R. 2276 was passed by voice vote under a suspension of the rules procedure, after only brief debate. The bill brought to the floor by House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman Bud Shuster (R-PA) would create an independent FAA, which would establish its own procurement and personnel policies for approval by Congress. A five-member board would be appointed by the President to make major procurement and policy decisions.

Stripped from the bill before it reached the floor was one of the more controversial provisions, which would have removed the Airport and Airways Trust Fund from the unified federal budget. That provision was dropped by Shuster after he won agreement from the House leadership to bring separate legislation to the floor, H.R. 842, which would remove all the transportation trust funds from the unified budget. Chairman Shuster said of the bill, "The FAA Revitalization Act will reform the agency's personnel and procurement procedures and help bring our air traffic control system into the 21st century."

While the bill easily passed the House, its prospects for final enactment are uncertain. A competing Senate FAA reform bill introduced by Senator John McCain (R-AZ) has stalled amid controversy over its financing proposals. Secretary of Transportation Federico Pena has threatened to recommend a veto of the House bill, if enacted by Congress. ✈

## Aviation Safety Programs

The Federal Aviation Administration and Montana Aeronautics Division will be sponsoring a series of aviation safety programs throughout the state in June. Make plans to attend one now!

Kalispell	June 11	Outlaw Inn	7–9 pm	Remington Room
Missoula	June 12	National Guard	7–9 pm	2501 Reserve St.
Billings	June 18	Rocky Mtn. College	7–9 pm	Fortin Auditorium
Great Falls	June 19	Holiday Inn	7–9 pm	400 10th Ave. So.
Helena	June 20	FAA, FSDO	7–9 pm	2725 Skyway Drive



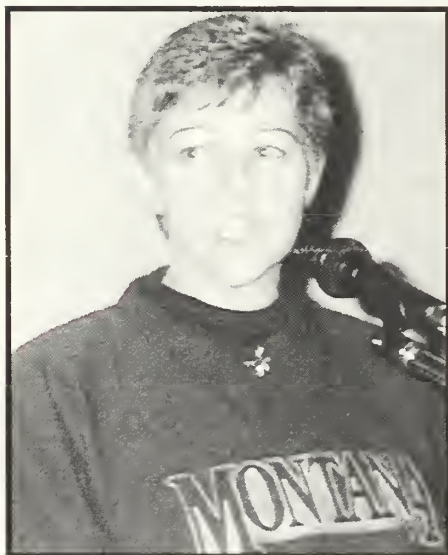
# More Montana Aviation Conference.....



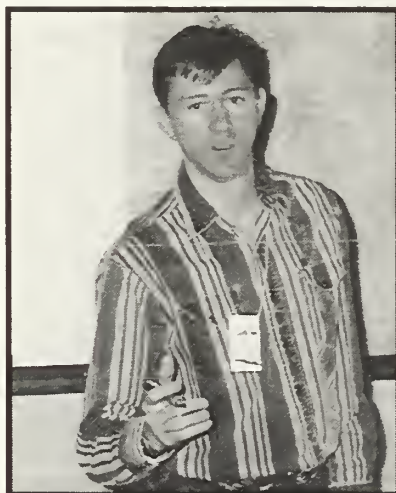
Dave Clague, Ken Brion and Ron Kelly presented "Financing Your Dream Aircraft." Dave is President of the Sleeping Giant Flying Club of Helena, Ken owns Mountain Air Insurance in Hamilton and Ron is Vice-President of First Security Bank of Deer Lodge. These three individuals provided information regarding purchasing vs. renting, financing and insurance requirements of aircraft ownership. All are private pilots.



Bob Lipscomb, outgoing President of the Montana Pilots Association presented the Hangar of the Year Award to the Flathead Valley Hangar. Accepting the award on behalf of the Flathead Hangar are Al Jennings and Lorraine Yde.



Major Dee Brasseur was one of the first three women to become a pilot in the Canadian military and one of only two female pilots in the world qualified to fly the highly sophisticated CF-18 Fighter aircraft. Major Brasseur's keen sense of humor was not dampened when she arrived in Helena long before her luggage .....she sported a Montana sweatshirt instead of her military flight suit!

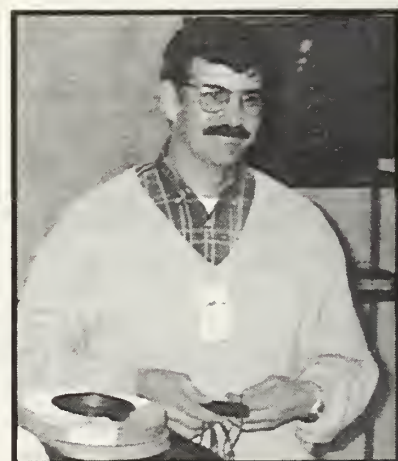


**Concurrent session speakers from across the country and Canada participate in the conference each year and present many educational, interesting sessions.**

Major Joe Kuberka of the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, CO, is an active participant at the aviation conference each year. This year he spoke on the history of the academy, instrument flying and participated in the aviation education day.



Dr. Ken Dial, Associate Professor, Division of Biological Sciences, University of Montana and Research Associate, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University gave a fantastic presentation: "An Inside Look At How Birds Fly: Control and Design of Wings and Tails."



Rick Burger, Aviation Program Manager/Chief Pilot, Fire and Aviation Management Bureau, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) spoke about aerial fire fighting in Montana.

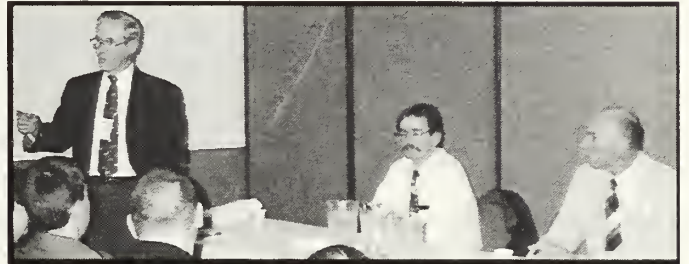




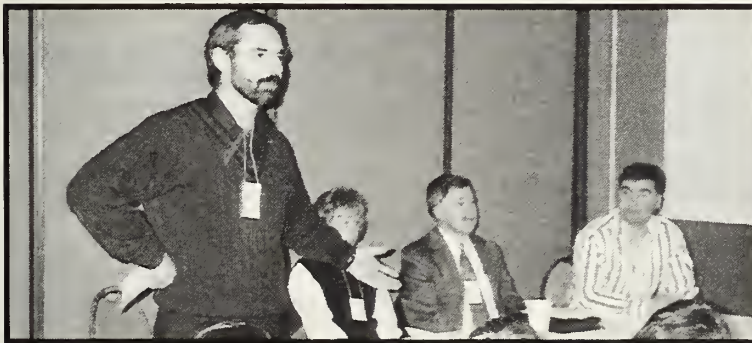
*Over 100 aircraft mechanics attended the annual Montana Aeronautics Division Mechanic IA Refresher Program. Many industry representatives participated and informed mechanics of happenings in the aircraft maintenance world. At left, Bruce Ryerson, FAA FSDO welcomes participants to the seminar. Thanks to Mike Rogan of the Aeronautics Division and Bruce for coordinating the seminar.*

## Aviation Education Day

*More than 400 students attended the aviation/aerospace career awareness day at the Montana Aviation Conference. Youngsters in grades 5-12 from Helena and the surrounding area were provided a wealth of aviation career information.*



*Many career specialists participated in the aviation/aerospace career day. Those on the educator panel included: Dave Kimball, Rocky Mountain College; Jim Cooney, Helena FAA FSDO; and Phil Vittetoe, University of Montana Helena College of Technology.*



*Many companies donated door prizes for the students. Joining the airport/airlines career panel were: Tom Binford, Assistant Director of Aviation, Billings Logan Int'l Airports; Ann Faber, Station Agent for Horizon Air of Helena; Al Hathy, Manager of Horizon Air in Helena; and Chris Saucier, Captain for Northwest Airlines.*



*Lee Ford, corporate pilot from Big Fork; John Maxness, owner of Exec Air at Helena; John Semple, aerial applicator of Helena; and Jerry Gresens, owner of Helena Aircraft, told students about the many and varied career opportunities in general aviation.*

*At right: Colonel Ross Bradie, Commander of the Rocky Mountain Liaison Region of the CAP, Denver, CO; Colonel Mark Mayer, Commander, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Detachment 450 at MSU Bozeman; Major Joe Kuberka, instructor at the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, CO; and Abe Fandrich one of the first qualified Black Hawk pilots at the Helena National Guard presented military careers to students.*





## **NAA Selects Ten Most Memorable Record Flights of 1995**

- ➔ Lifting off from the Olympic Stadium in Seoul, Korea, Steve Fossett piloted his Rozier balloon across the Pacific Ocean, touching down 5,435 miles later in Mendham, Saskatchewan. This record for "Distance" was set February 17–22.
- ➔ On July 25, 132 airplanes, led by Wayne Collins in his Beechcraft Bonanza, lined the runway at Rockford, IL, and flew together in formation to Oshkosh, WI, setting the record for "Largest General Aviation Formation."
- ➔ Col. Douglas Raaberg and crew from the USAF 9th Bomb Squadron circled the globe nonstop in the Rockwell B-1B, in 1 day, 12 hours and 13 minutes—averaging 631 mph. This record for "Speed Around the World, Eastbound (with Refueling in Flight)" was set June 3.
- ➔ Piloting his radio-controlled, piston-engine model airplane from a convertible, Ronald Clem traveled from Ocotillo, CA, to Lordsburg, NM—a distance of 426 miles. This record for "Distance in a Straight Line" was set June 10.
- ➔ On a regularly scheduled flight of a United Airlines Boeing 747-100, Captain Irv Soble and crew flew from Tokyo, Japan, to Honolulu, HI in 5 hours and 23 minutes, averaging 708 mph. This record for "Speed Over a Commercial Air Route" was set February 6.
- ➔ Remotely piloted by David Ganzer and Greg Kendall, the six-engine, solar-powered, unmanned Aero Viroment Pathfinder clawed its way to 50,567 feet. This record for "Altitude" was set at Edwards AFB, CA, on September 12.
- ➔ Highlighting a series of record-breaking flights for the Gulfstream IV SP, Gary Freeman and crew flew to 57,260 feet in the skies above Savannah, GA. This record for "Altitude" was set May 21.
- ➔ From a standing start on the runway at Phoenix, AZ, Jack Steinfeldt flew his modified Pitts S-1C to nearly 10,000 feet in 3 minutes and 29 seconds. This record for "Time to Climb to 3,000 Meters" was set January 28.
- ➔ Space Shuttle Commander Robert Gibson and crew of STS-71 docked with the Russian Space Station MIR for 4 days, 22 hours, and 9 minutes. This record for "Duration of Flight While Linked" was set June 29–July 4.
- ➔ To demonstrate the range and bombing capabilities of the Boeing B-52H, Capt. Russell Mathers and crew from the USAF 96th Bomb Squadron flew 6,250 miles carrying 11,000 pounds of payload—at an average speed of 549 mph. This record for "Speed Over a 10,000 Kilometer Closed Circuit (with 5,000 Kilogram Payload)" was set from Edwards AFB, CA, on August 26.

## **Audrey Poberezny Honored**

The "First Lady" of the EAA, Audrey Poberezny was one of 16 inductees to the Women in Aviation International Pioneer Hall of Fame. The induction was part of the International Women in Aviation Conference in Minneapolis in March and attracted a record 1,400 attendees.

Poberezny was honored for her selfless contributions to aviation and EAA over its 44-year history. EAA was founded in 1953 and for more than a decade was operated

out of the Poberezny's basement. Audrey was responsible for EAA's day-to-day operations. She continued to serve as EAA's office manager until 1970, helping the organization grow from a local club to an international association serving all of sport aviation. She is still active as chairman of EAA Guest Relations during the EAA Fly-In Convention.

Congratulations Audrey!

## **1996 EAA Aviation Foundation Education Programs**

Programs for teachers and students, of all ages, who are aviation enthusiasts will bring the dream of flight to life during the 1996 schedule of education programs sponsored by the EAA Aviation Foundation.

The programs will include a mix of aviation and recreational activities for kids ages 12–14 and a full youth aviation experience for older teens. In addition, the Foundation offers work experience and internship programs for young people and educators.

Three of these programs are residence camps based at the EAA Aviation Center in Oshkosh, Wis. Each will utilize the resources of the world's largest sport aviation organization.

Internship programs offer both young people and adults an opportunity to develop aviation skills while using their talents in other areas.

For more information or application materials for any of the EAA Aviation Foundation's education programs, write to the EAA Aviation Foundation Education Office; PO Box 3065; Oshkosh, WI 54903-3065, or call (414) 426-6815 ✈

## **Thank You**

Thanks to Jim Steffek who donated a video to the Montana Aeronautics Division Film Library. The film is entitled *Introduction to METAR/TAF* is about the new aviation weather formats.

Remember: The film library is a free loan library. Stop by and pickup a catalog of the videos and films that are available to loan to Montana pilots, pilot groups, schools and others.

# ATTENTION MONTANA AIRSTRIP OWNERS!

The Montana Aeronautics Division is currently in the process of creating it's new 1997 Aeronautical Chart. In order to accomplish this task, the division relies heavily upon you to create the most accurate chart possible. The Division is asking all private airstrip owners to please fill out the information below concerning your airstrip. The data is crucial in helping us list airports on the new chart.

A legal advantage for charting an airport is that an airstrip that is clearly listed on flight publications as being 1) privately owned, 2) not for public use, 3) having possible unreported hazards, 4) at the users own risk and 5) requires prior permission for use, has less liability for the owner than an airstrip that is not charted, but clearly identifiable from the air as an airstrip. This could be construed as an invitation for public use.

If no word is received on an airstrip that is already charted, we will assume the information we last received is correct. If the airstrip is no longer in operation, please let us know so we may delete from the current chart

**Please Mail To:**

**Montana Aeronautics Division  
Attn: Jim Greil, Aero Chart Revisions  
Box 5178  
Helena, MT 59604**

## AIRSTRIP INFORMATION

Name of Airstrip (as to be depicted) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Owners Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Owners Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

## AIRSTRIP LOCATION

Latitude \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Nearest Town \_\_\_\_\_ Direction From Town \_\_\_\_\_ Distance \_\_\_\_\_

Section \_\_\_\_\_ Township \_\_\_\_\_ Range \_\_\_\_\_

Is your airport open to the public (public use\*)? ☐ Yes ☐ No (\*Public use: No prior permission required, user does NOT assume own risk)

Comments or additional info. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## AIRSTRIP DATA

Runway Direction	Length	Width	Approach Obstructions
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_____	_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____	_____
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Airport Elevation _____	Unicom Radio?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Frequency? _____
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Fuel Available?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Octane _____	
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Telephone Available?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Phone Number _____	
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Airstrip Owner's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# Montana Airport Operators

The Montana Aeronautics Division is attempting to create a database of GA airports and their associated rates and charges. Please complete the following survey and mail it to:

Montana Aeronautics Division  
Attn: Jim Greil, GA Survey  
Box 5178  
Helena, MT 59601

Airport Name \_\_\_\_\_ Assc. City \_\_\_\_\_

## DOES AIRPORT HAVE:

Buildings for lease? \_\_\_\_\_ Cost? \_\_\_\_\_

Hangars for lease? \_\_\_\_\_ Cost? \_\_\_\_\_

Land for lease? \_\_\_\_\_ Cost? \_\_\_\_\_

The Down Fees? \_\_\_\_\_ Cost? \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel Available? \_\_\_\_\_ Cost? \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliation? \_\_\_\_\_



**April 1996**

Bulk Rate  
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Helena, Montana 59604